

Appl. No. 09/839,295
Amdt. Dated October 3, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 8, 2005 /

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 stand presently rejected as being unpatentable over US patent No. 5,860,810 (hereinafter Faul) in view of US patent No. 5,566,291 (hereinafter Boulton) and further in view of US patent No. 3,944,986 (hereinafter Staples).

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 is directed to a computerized method for self-directed assistance of equipment service personnel in identifying replacement parts for selected locomotive equipment and a selected system thereof while present at an equipment work site to perform a servicing operation for a locomotive. Claim 1 recites that a part in a selected assembly is identified by providing a series of linked schematic representations that comprise a plurality of graphical hyperlinks embedded on respective visual representations of the selected locomotive equipment. Claim 1 further recites activating at least some of the plurality of graphical hyperlinks embedded on the respective visual representations of the selected locomotive equipment for enabling the service personnel to graphically navigate from the selected assembly to any relevant subassembly and replacement parts.

Faul describes an automated instructional system for performing mechanical procedures. Faul indeed shows a graphical inset 60 (FIG. 3) that contains information required to perform a given task. However, Faul fails to describe or suggest graphical hyperlinks embedded on the respective visual representations of the selected locomotive equipment as set forth in claim 1. The ability to directly click on a graphical representation of the equipment being serviced to quickly and accurately identify the correct replacement part provides an advantage that cannot be underestimated for more reliable and quick servicing of complex and powerful pieces of equipment such as a locomotive. In Faul the operator must indicate completion of a task by pressing "Return" (FIG. 4) and then another graphical inset may or may not be presented. However, no description is provided or suggested for clicking on graphical hyperlinks

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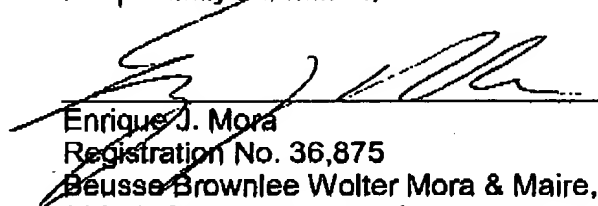
embedded on the respective visual representations of the selected locomotive equipment for enabling the service personnel to graphically navigate from the selected assembly to any relevant subassembly and replacement parts. Neither Boulton nor Staples remedies the deficiencies of Faul discussed above and, consequently, Faul Boulton and Staples, individually and in combination, fail to render unpatentable claim 1 as well as the claims depending there from. In view of the foregoing considerations, applicants respectfully request that the grounds of rejection for claims 1-18 be withdrawn.

In connection with independent claims 19 and 20, each of these claims respectively set forth structural and/or operational relationships regarding graphical hyperlinks embedded on the respective visual representations of the selected locomotive equipment. Accordingly, Faul, Boulton, and Staples, individually and in combination, also fail to render unpatentable claims 19 and 20, and applicant respectfully requests that the grounds of rejection for claims 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that each of the claims pending in this application recites patentable subject matter and it is further submitted that such claims comply with all statutory requirements and thus each of such claims should be allowed.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any aspects of this Reply/Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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